but also to provide a community service to its viewers in a 1 community where FSU looms large as a cultural and entertainment 2 center of the San Joaquin Valley. Approximately 5.5% of the 3 gross revenues of KMPH for 1990, for example, was attributable to 4 televising FSU football and basketball games. Recently, KMPH 5 6 celebrated 20 years of continuous operation and service to the San Joaquin Valley. Prominently featured in the promotional 7 8 spots aired over KMPH during its anniversary promotion was the 9 relationship between KMPH and FSU, and specifically FSU 10 athletics. The association of KMPH with FSU and its nationally 11 recognized athletic program is important to KMPH as a critical 12 building block in the creation of and maintenance of the 13 franchise value of the station, far beyond the numerical 14 contributions to revenue and profit made by FSU athletic 15 telecasts. The association of KMPH with FSU is of equal 16 importance to the viewers of KMPH. For many of the viewers of 17 KMPH, free television is their sole source of affordable 18 entertainment. KMPH, for many, is the only way to watch the 19 athletic exploits of the Fresno State Bulldogs. The close 20 identity of KMPH and FSU athletics has been instrumental in 21 developing viewer station loyalty and the continued close identity and relationship between KMPH and FSU is critical to 22 23 maintaining the identity of KMPH as "your station" - an attribute 24 that makes KMPH unique among the commercial television stations 25 serving the Fresno market, of which there are a total of eight

16. The signal of KMPH is received by approximately 98% of the households within the market area of KMPH. FSU

28

3RAHAM

1 At Law

lid Ave. #5

2A 91786

1-5212

26

27

(8).

athletic events are among the most important entertainment events in the San Joaquin Valley. For example, according to Arbitron, the away game between undefeated FSU and winless New Mexico State which was televised by KMPH on Saturday afternoon, October 19, 1991, received a 33% share (nearly 200,000 persons viewing in the entire valley). Approximately one out of every three people watching television within the market area of KMPH, and during the rating period, was watching the Bulldogs on KMPH. Typically, ratings for afternoon games are lower than for evening games, and games against formidable opponents, such as WSU and OSU, receive higher ratings.

BACKGROUND OF DEFENDANTS' VIOLATIONS

17. It is extremely valuable to colleges and universities engaged in college football including FSU. WSU. OSU

is, in part, created by the televising of a university's football games, as well as other students who are made aware of the university and attracted by the prominence of the university's athletic program. FSU was ranked among the top 25 college football teams in America during the 1991 and 1992 seasons and on various occasions in the past, and FSU defeated national powerhouse, USC, in the 1992 Freedom Bowl.

football team enhances the recognition and reputation of the institution among members of the general public. The televising of college football games affects the attention which the participating football teams receive from sports writers and college football coaches and, therefore, affects the national rankings of the participating colleges' football teams. Both of these factors have great impact on the colleges' ability to maintain or enhance their national following, increase contributions and recruits students both for the colleges' athletic and academic programs.

and FSU have been members of Division I-A of the NCAA (the NCAA division whose members have the most prominent and successful football programs), have engaged in college football and have participated in the market for live college football television broadcasts. At all relevant times, defendant, PAC-10, and each of its member schools and FSU have been members of the NCAA.

THE ROLE OF THE HOME TEAM IN TELEVISING COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAMES

: GRAHAM iys At Law solid Ave. #5 CA 91786 761-5212

for specific games were made by the home team (the "host institution"). Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that this custom and practice has been followed with respect to and is part of every football game contract between universities. It was adopted and has been continuously followed, among other reasons, because the home team is in a better position than the visiting university to negotiate issues such as stadium access, power supply and lighting, working media credentials, camera positions, announcing booth space, complimentary tickets, and adherence to Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") policies and regulations affecting the broadcast site. 22. This practice of "home rule" with respect to television coverage has been recognized and followed, to the best of plaintiff's information and belief, in virtually every transaction providing for television football rights since 1951. The same practice prevails in college basketball television

At all times since the inception of television

broadcasting of college football games, all television agreements

21.

23. Plaintiff is informed and believes and alleges thereon that this custom and practice of "home rule" is recognized by defendants PTN, CVN, CAP CITIES/ABC, ESPN and PAC-10 in both their broadcast and cable television agreements which provide, inter alia, that these agreements shall not prohibit an individual PAC-10 member institution from granting rights to

of the host institution to make the television arrangements for

college football and basketball games.

It is the well-established and well-recognized right

25

26

27

football games with respect to its own home area, provided that such a grant is not inconsistent with the agreement(s).

3

1

Ž

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22 23

24

25

26

27

28

GRAHAM clid Ave. 1/5 CA 91786 **6**1-5212

THE NCAA'S ROLE IN TELEVISION COVERAGE OF INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL.

The bylaws of the NCAA provide for the classification of members into three divisions (denominated I, II, and III) according to specified criteria relating generally to the size and diversity of each institution's athletic program. Division I is comprised of schools with the largest and most diverse athletic programs. Of the Division I schools, not all field intercollegiate football teams. For the sport of football only, the Division I institutions have been further subdivided into Division I-A (consisting of the institutions with major football programs) and I-AA. Institutions are assigned to Division I-A or I-AA according to criteria which includes the size and prominence of the football program, the size of the school's football stadium and average paid attendance. Generally speaking, Division I-A members are those institutions with the most prominent and nationally-recognized programs, and are most in demand for television appearances on commercial networks. The member institutions of Defendant PAC-10 (including non-parties WSU and OSU), and non-party FSU are all members of Division I-A.

In a competitive market, each football-playing 25. institution would be an independent seller of the right to televise its football games. Each seller would be free to sell that right to any individual station or network it chose, for whatever price it could obtain, and would not agree with other

institutions to artificially limit such right or its ability to compete head-to-head (i.e., two or more games played at Walshuing times title ather institutions in television its

 higher and output being lower than they would otherwise have been, and both being unresponsive to consumer preference; and

- (d) The plan effectively eliminated individual television stations as competitors from the market since only those programmers able to bid on the entire plan could compete.
- 28. From 1952 until June 27, 1984, the NCAA formulated television plans for coverage of college football by the commercial television networks. During this period, the NCAA negotiated all agreements with the television networks, and controlled the entire market for live college football television broadcasts. No NCAA member was permitted to sell live television rights to its own college football games except in accordance with the NCAA plan then in effect.
- 29. The NCAA is and was more than a price-fixing and output restricting cartel. Its member institutions created.

intercollegiate athletic venture. Absent the PAC-10, college
football would continue as a vital and distinct product under the
NCAA's administration, and individual schools could readily
market television rights to their games. The PAC-10 is not and
never has been necessary for college football to exist.

CAP CITIES/ABC'S DOMINANCE IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL TELEVISION

31. For at least 28 consecutive years, through the

| | of the second | reast 20 conse | cucive years, | · | | |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|---|---|--|
| Name of the state | | | | | | |
| • | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <u> </u> | | | | | · | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <u> </u> | | | | | | |
| - | | | | | | |
| A Total | | | | | | |
|) [2] - | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| A. | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <u> </u> | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| n | | | | | | |
| <u> </u> | Ť | • | | - | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <u> </u> | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

14

15

13

16 17

18 19

20

21

22

23 24

25

26

27

28

'E & GRAHAM

torneys At Law 1. Buclid Ave. #5 and, CA 91786 09) 981-5212

NCAA alleging that the NCAA's control of college football television violated the Federal Antitrust Laws. On June 27, 1984, the United States Supreme Court held in that lawsuit that the NCAA's television plan (including its contracts with two national television networks pursuant to the plan) violated Section I of the Sherman Act. The Supreme Court held that the NCAA plan had the affect of fixing the prices for and restricting the output of live college football television broadcasts, lacked any adequate justification for these anti-competitive features, and therefore amounted to an unreasonable restraint of trade in violation of Section I of the Sherman Act. NCAA v. Board of Regents in the State of Oklahoma, et al., 468 U.S. 85, 104 S.Ct. 2498 (1984) (The "NCAA Decision").

34. The Supreme Court concluded that the NCAA plan limited both the total amount of televised college football available and the number of games that any one team could televise. These limitations were found to be a classic, horizontal agreement to limit output (and thus enhance price) in restraint of trade. The court referred to the district court's finding that the output restrictions had the effect of raising the price paid by the networks for television rights, and pointed out that the restrictions could be enforced by the NCAA's power to impose sanctions on its member institutions. The court cited with approval the district court's conclusion that "Many telecasts that would occur in a competitive market are foreclosed by the NCAA's plan" and concluded that the output limiting aspect of the NCAA plan:

"Constitutes a restraint upon the operation

of a free market, and the findings of the district court established that it is operated to raise price and reduce output. With the Rule of Reason, these hallmarks of anti-competitive behavior placed upon petitioner a heavy burden of establishing an affirmative defense which competitively justifies this apparent deviation from the operations of a free market."

The Supreme Court concluded that the justifications proffered by the NCAA were insufficient to justify the anti-competitive affects of their restraints.

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA VS. ABC DECISION

35. In 1984 the Regents of the University of California, the University of Southern California, The Pacific-10 Conference and The Big-10 Conference filed an anti-trust suit against the American Broadcasting Companies, Inc., ABC Sports, ESPN, the College Football Association ("CFA"), the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, and the University of Notre Dame Du Lac.

36. On November 9, 1984 the Ninth (9th) Circuit Court of Appeal affirmed the decision of the Honorable Richard A. Gadbois, Jr., granting a preliminary injunction prohibiting two defendant schools from refusing to consent to the broadcast of cross-over games (games between a CFA member and a non-CFA member) between the plaintiff institutions and defendant

IPE & ORAHAM betorneys At Law N. Buclid Ave. #5 pland, CA 91786 (909) 981-5212

institutions solely on the basis of the exclusivity terms of their contract with the remaining defendants, 747 F. 2d 511 ("CFA Decision").

- 37. The plaintiffs in the CFA case alleged that the cross-over restriction was a refusal to deal and, in the alternative, they asserted that the defendants formed a cartel restricting the output of televised games so as to artificially raise the value of the ABC-CFA contract. In summary, the plaintiff's complaint alleged classic anti-trust violations of "group boycott" and "price fixing".
- 38. In affirming Judge Gadbois' order, the 9th Circuit opined:

"Accordingly, the reasoning of the NCAA Decision suggests that traditional anti-trust analysis, and the attendant per se label, should apply to the plaintiff's boycott and price fixing allegations."

747 F. 2d 511, 516 [Emphasis added].

- 39. Despite the NCAA Decision and the <u>CFA Decision</u>, defendant PAC-10 and its members, through the PAC-10's joint marketing plan, continued their attempt to obtain cartel profits for themselves, to restrict output and restrict all meaningful head-to-head competition.
- 40. During 1983-1984 defendant PAC-10 and non-party
 The BIG Ten Conference ("Big Ten") refused to participate in
 college football television packages promoted and sponsored by
 the CFA and the Football Television Planning Committee ("FTPC").
 Rather, in or about 1984 the PAC-10 together with the BIG-Ten
 elected instead, because of their prominence, to negotiate with

executives of defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports, ESPN in order to create their own cartel.

- 41. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that during 1984-1985, and thereafter, representatives of the PAC-10, CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports and PTN freely discussed their mutual intention to restrict the market for televised live major college football. Defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports, ESPN, PAC-10 and PTN wanted fewer games to be televised in order to artificially increase the value of the television package(s).
- 42. The general policy of defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports and ESPN was to get exclusive rights to cover the sports events it would show on television. They were concerned that without the elimination of as much head-to-head competition as possible, other stations would carry games of local and regional interest instead of the ABC or ESPN Network National games. Because games with regional or local interest usually have higher ratings in the local/regional broadcast areas, defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports, and ESPN wanted to eliminate those telecasts in order to preserve and enhance their advertising revenues from advertisers.
- 43. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that by the time of the NCAA decision and thereafter, defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports and ESPN decided not to bid individually on games because, according to ABC Sports executive Charles Lavery, "If we were to buy on an individual game basis, then there would be no protection, no exclusivity, with respect to the telecast of that game." The defendants were firmly committed to purchasing a package of

8

9

10 11

12

13

14 15

16 17

18

19

20

21 22

23

24

25 26

27

28

Buelid Ave. #5

4. CA 91786

981-5212

television rights to college football games, rather than to engage in "cherry-picking" the rights to individual games because the package approach would minimize any head-to-head competition and according to Herbert Granath, the president of ESPN's parent company, a wholly owned subsidiary of CAP CITIES/ABC, exclusivity has an effect on the price of the package because advertisers are willing to pay more money for an exclusive package:

> "[T]he value is computed by virtue of the ratings which in turn impact the advertising dollars that can be achieved, [and] rights holders have traditionally asked for greater rights payments for exclusivity as opposed to non-exclusivity".

- In or about 1984-1985 the PAC-10 and BIG-Ten, mindful of not only their importance as premier college football conferences, but also defendants willingness to pay an artificially inflated price for a package of games in exchange for exclusivity during 1984-1985 and, thereafter, demanded an artificially high price for a package of their football games which defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports, and ESPN together with defendant PAC-10 and non-party Big-Ten, conspired and agreed to pay in exchange for an illegal agreement to restrict the output and artificially increase the value of live television broadcasts of these college football games for the benefit of defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports and ESPN.
- In or about 1988-1989 defendants PTN and CVN 45. joined the conspiracy by entering into a contract essentially identical to ESPN's with the PAC-10.
 - 46. Plaintiff is informed and believes that there

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

have been discussions between and among defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports and ESPN on the one hand and defendants PTN and CVN on the other hand, whereby PTN would become a subsidiary of, or an affiliate of defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports and/or ESPN.

47. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the ultimate objective of this continuing conspiracy is to "siphon" from free over-the-air broadcasters to cable television all television sports rights in order to maximize the number of subscribers, market coverage, revenues and profits by making televised sports available on a "pay per view" basis only. Plaintiff is informed and believes that defendants and each of them have projected that the long-term revenues and profits to be derived from pay per view will exceed those to be derived from free over-the-air broadcasting.

TELEVISION BROADCASTING AGREEMENT BETWEEN KMPH AND FSU.

Subsequent to the NCAA decision in 1984, the 48. California State University, Fresno Athletic Corporation ("Corporation"), California Sports Network ("CFSN") and plaintiff entered into a television broadcasting agreement dated July 1, 1985. In that contract, CFSN and plaintiff are sometimes referred to collectively as "contractors" and that contract provides, that contractors have the right of first refusal to broadcast "FSU sport events". This contract has been extended through the 1992 season.

28 & GRAHAM meys At Law Buckid Ave. #5 id, CA 91786 7) 981-5212

3

4

5

6

7

8 9

10

11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23 24

25

26

27

28

evs At Law Suclid Ave. #5 1, CA 91786 981-5212

1991 KMPH/FSU TELEVISION FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- 49. Pursuant to and in fulfillment of its contractual obligations with FSU, KMPH was originally scheduled to broadcast, live, the following six (6) home and away games on the following Northern Illinois - September 7, 1991 (home); Washington dates: State - September 14, 1991 (away); Oregon State - September 21, 1991 (away); New Mexico - October 5, 1991 (home); New Mexico State - October 19, 1991 (away); Utah State - November 2, 1991 (away).
- Pursuant to its contract with KMPH and consistent 50. with the custom and practice of "home rule," FSU sought the permission of WSU to broadcast, live, the football game between FSU and WSU on September 14, 1991. On June 26, 1991, Scott Johnson, FSU's Assistant Athletic Director for Communications, confirmed with the Associate Athletic Director of WSU, Harold Gibeon, that WSU had granted KMPH the right to televise, live, the September 14, 1991 game between FSU and WSU. A true and accurate copy of the letter confirming this agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and is incorporated herein by reference. The reference to Howard Zuckerman in Exhibit "A" refers to the producer retained by KMPH to produce the broadcast.
- Pursuant to its contract with KMPH and consistent 51. with the custom and practice of "home rule," FSU sought the permission of OSU to broadcast, live, the football game between FSU and OSU on September 21, 1991. On June 26, 1991, Scott Johnson, FSU's Assistant Athletic Director for Communications, confirmed with the Associate Athletic Director of OSU, Mike Corwin, that OSU had granted KMPH the right to televise, live,

the September 21, 1991 game between FSU and OSU. A true and accurate copy of the letter confirming this agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and incorporated herein by reference. 3 reference to Howard Zuckerman in Exhibit "B" refers to the

exclusive providers of PAC-10 football during the Saturday afternoon (3:30-6:30 p.m. EST) time period.

- 56. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that under the terms of the extension with defendant CAP CITIES/ABC and ABC Sports, the PAC-10 and Big-10 will split approximately \$108 million over the 1990 through 1996 seasons, representing more than \$15 million per season.
- 57. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that defendants CAP CITIES/ABC and ABC Sports have first selection rights from among the complete Pacific-10 schedule. No individual university may appear more than three (3) times per season at home or more than five times in total.
- 58. Plaintiff is informed and believes and alleges thereon that in or about 1989 defendants PTN, CVN and ESPN contracted with defendant PAC-10 through the 1994 season. The contract includes an option which could add the 1995 through 1998 seasons.
- 59. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that pursuant to this contract defendant PTN will offer ten (10) PAC10 telecasts annually over the life of the agreement, with defendant ESPN currently contracting for two (2) telecasts per season.
- 60. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that both defendants PTN and ESPN have offered and will offer telecasts during the 6:30-10:00 p.m. EST (3:30-7:00 p.m. PST) window, and have exclusivity except to the extent that both ESPN and PTN telecast concurrently.
 - 61. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that

RIPE & GRAHAM Attorneys At Law 16 N. Euclid Avc. #5 Upland, CA 91786 (909) 981-5212 the PAC-10 received \$4.4 million for the 1989 season and if the option is exercised to extend the contract to 10 years, the total contract value is \$66 million, or an average of \$6.6 million annually.

- 62. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that PTN and ESPN receive second selection priority behind defendant CAP CITIES/ABC and ABC Sports.
- of defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports, PTN, and ESPN extend from 12:30-7:00 p.m. As a result, local free-over-the-air broadcasting opportunities for broadcasters such as plaintiff, and its viewers, are typically limited to night telecasts. The effect in the PAC-10 is to limit most over-the-air distribution to games played at Arizona or Arizona State.

DEFENDANTS PREVENT PLAINTIFF FROM BROADCASTING THE FSU GAMES AGAINST WSU AND OSU

64. On August 28, 1991, Scott Johnson, FSU's
Assistant Athletic Director for Communications sent via facsimile
a memorandum to Bon Abercrombie and Lise Markham, employees of
plaintiff KMPH, a document entitled "Client Memorandum." That
document states, in pertinent part:

"The Fresno State Athletic Department recently received word that due to contract stipulations and complications with the PAC-10 Conference television contract with Prime Ticket and ABC-TV, we will not be able to televise live the Sept. 14 game at

1 [']

RIPE & ORAHAM Attorneys At Law 6 N. Buclid Ave. #5 Upland, CA 91786 (909) 981-5212 Washington State and the Sept. 21 game at Oregon State. Prime Ticket available windows do not fit the respective 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. kick-off times for those two games thus not enabling us to do a live telecast."

A true and correct copy of this document is attached hereto as Exhibit "C" and incorporated herein by reference.

alleges that pursuant to its contract with defendant PTN, defendant PAC-10 granted to PTN and pursuant to its contract with ESPN to defendant ESPN an exclusive time period for the live or same day delayed presentation of each game or event with respect to which PTN or ESPN were granted rights under the agreement with PAC-10. The exclusive cable-casting period was, at all times herein relevant:

"[W]ith respect to football games, such exclusive time period shall be for a duration of three (3) hours and thirty (30) minutes, commencing from the start of the game cablecast (as differentiated from a pre-game show). Just as a PTN [or ESPN] football presentation may overlap an ABC presentation by not more than forty-five (45) minutes of that network's scheduled telecasting period, a telecast or cablecast by a PAC-10 member in the sport of football may overlap a PTN [or ESPN] presentation by

4

5

7

8

9

11

12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19 20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

RIPE & GRAHAM Attorneys At Law 6 N. Buelid Ave. #5 Upland, CA 91786 (909) 981-5212 not more than forty-five (45) minutes of the exclusive time period." [bracketed material added]

- 66. Defendant PTN, at all times herein relevant, was scheduled to broadcast the UCLA versus Tennessee game on September 14, 1991 commencing at 7:30 p.m. and the Cal versus Arizona game on September 21, 1991 commencing at 7:00 p.m.
- FSU versus WSU on September 14, 1991, was 67. scheduled to commence at 2:00 p.m. and would, therefore, have been telecast during defendant CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports' exclusivity window. Further, FSU versus OSU on September 21, 1991, which was scheduled to commence at 5:00 p.m., would have overlapped the Cal versus Arizona game scheduled that day by PTN by approximately one and one-half (1 1/2) hours. Since the contract between the PAC-10 and PTN allowed for a 45 minute overlap, there was a net 45 minute overlap not allowed pursuant to the PTN/PAC-10 contract. Plaintiff is informed and believes that these overlaps could have been resolved by starting the FSU versus OSU game at 4:15 p.m., the Cal versus Arizona game at 7:45 p.m. or by obtaining a waiver from defendants CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC Sports, PTN and ESPN of these overlaps, which permission plaintiff is informed and believes could not be unreasonably withheld.
- 68. On or about September 3, 1991 via facsimile transmission, Mr. Pappas, on behalf of plaintiff, sent a memorandum to defendant JOHN SEVERINO, president of defendant PTN, and transmitted therewith a letter dated August 29, 1991, mistakenly addressed to Mr. Bob Thompson, an executive of TCI

these communications, Mr. Pappas requested of Mr. Severino a waiver of any and all exclusivity windows or black-out windows

which Mr. Pappas mistakenly believed was the owner of PTN. Via

71. On or about February 9, 1993 plaintiff was advised by FSU that plaintiff's continuance of this lawsuit would likely have negative ramifications for FSU. FSU implied that one or more of the defendants threatened to sanction FSU by not scheduling games involving FSU if plaintiff, the broadcaster of FSU sports events, continued this lawsuit.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Per Se Violation of Section I of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1 Against all Defendants)

- 72. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 71 of this Complaint.
- 73. By reason of the foregoing, defendants have acted in concert with the purpose, intent and affect of restraining trade and commerce in violation of Section One of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S. C. § 1 and their actions are unlawful per se.

 Defendants engaged in a group boycott by refusing to deal with KMPH; by boycotting KMPH; by restraining PAC-10 member institutions, specifically WSU and OSU, from appearing in cross-over games to be televised solely by KMPH; notwithstanding the fact that the defendants did not intend to provide these games to the local television market, the ADT_of KMPH, regionally, or

OSU, respectively, and by threatening FSU with sanctions. 74. Defendants are also engaged in a horizontal 2 cartel, by which they have agreed to reduce the output of college 3 football games, in order to increase, artificially, the price and the value of the PAC-10/ PTN/ESPN cable carriage backage and the

- 77. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by this reference each and every allegation of paragraphs 1 through 76 of this Complaint.
- 78. Defendants agreements have not only reduced output and artificially increased the price of the subject television/cable carriage packages, but also subverted viewer choice and eliminated head-to-head competition between themselves and broadcasters such as plaintiff herein, all without any countervailing, procompetitive justification. Defendants' agreements restrain trade unreasonably in violation of Section One of the Sherman Act, § 15 USC § 1.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Attempt to Monopolize Against All Defendants)

- 79. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by this reference each and every allegation of paragraphs 1 through 78 of this Complaint.
- 80. Defendants have engaged in the conduct alleged herein with the specific intent to monopolize the market for live television broadcasts of college football games including inter

The goal of defendants PTN, CVN, ESPN, CAP CITIES/ABC and ABC Sports is to monopolize the presentation of live college football and ultimately increase their revenues and profits by restricting the presentation of live college football games to pay per view only. The goal of defendant PAC-10 is to be the exclusive representative of all of the members of defendant, PAC-10, including OSU and WSU, negotiating television rights for college football games involving members of the PAC-10 so output will be restricted and the price of each individual contest and the package(s) as a whole will be artificially increased and to participate in the attempt to make such events pay per view only.

- 82. Defendants PTN, CVN, CAP CITIES/ABC, ABC SPORTS, ESPN and PAC-10 have sought and continue to seek a monopoly of the live college football television market including, inter alia, games between members of the PAC-10 and non-members of the PAC-10 and defendants seek to form a cartel as the dominant market power to gain monopoly control over the provision of such broadcasts by excluding local television broadcasters such as KMPH from the relevant markets.
- will succeed in monopolizing the market for live television broadcasts of college football games as alleged herein. If defendants succeed in monopolizing the market by continuing to implement the exclusivity provisions of their contracts and agreements then competition will be impaired in that this unique product, live television broadcasts of college football games, for which there is no substitute, will be restricted to defendants and unavailable to broadcasters such as plaintiff

28
RIPE & GRAHAM
Attorneys At Law
5 N. Buelid Ave. #5
Jpland, CA 91786
(909) 981-5212